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New Provost Dr. Karen Olmstead is ready to make an impact

HANNAH HYAT / News editor
@hmhyat1



Dr. Karen Olmstead was appointed Salisbury University provost at the end of 2018 following her period as interim provost. / Salisbury University image

CAMPUS — After a nationwide search, it turns out the chosen candidate for one of the most important administrative positions on campus was working here all along.

Dr. Karen Olmstead was appointed Salisbury University's new provost and senior vice president of academic affairs at the end of 2018 fall semester. Olmstead was already acting as interim provost since July 2018.

As provost, Olmstead says she will maintain fundamental communication between the university's schools, programs and community.

Olmstead put the value of the provost into perspective as she explained the typical accountabilities.

"This position serves as the point person for what [a] university does — the provost is more internal," said Olmstead. "The provost has the opportunity to help focus a lot of campus on whatever the short or long terms goals are — trying to get everyone on the same page."

Olmstead's position oversees academic policy, budgeting, curriculum, faculty development, student advising and support, assessment, instructional technology and accreditation, as well as university outreach.

With over six months of experience as interim provost under her belt, the Maryland native is well-prepared for the responsibility.

"Certainly being in this position for a little over a year gave me a lot of insights I wouldn't have had," Olmstead said. "I didn't really see how the budget people fit in with the science people or communication people, but all of

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SU sorority and fraternity suspended, pending investigation



CHASE GORSKI / Editor-in-Chief
@cgorski

GREEK LIFE — Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity have been placed on administrative suspension by the university as of earlier this semester.

The investigations surrounding both chapters center around hazing allegations that came within the first week of classes beginning. According to the Salisbury University website, ZTA was suspended back on Jan. 29 followed by the suspension for Kappa Alpha Psi on Feb. 6.

Both of the suspensions correlate with reports on the Salisbury University Police crime beat. According to the crime beat on the night of Jan. 27 there was a report of possible hazing off-campus among an SU sorority.

With cases such as this the university typically issues an immediate administrative suspension and allows SUPD to carry out an investigation if they feel one is needed.

Coordinator of Student Life Jennifer Hanner outlined the process involving a report of inappropriate new member activities beginning with the suspension as well as notifying the national organizations and local involved parties.

"If [SUPD] does feel that they need to do an investigation then we basically pause our whole process," Hanner said. "Following their investigation they will turn over a report with their findings...and we will start a conduct process from that point."

The SUPD crime beat details each report's status as well, with the report of the sorority hazing being listed as "unfounded." That status update according to Hanner

means that SUPD's investigation has finished and the university will soon begin their conduct investigation.

The second report comes on Feb. 5 as a reported allegation of hazing involving a fraternity also occurring off campus, and that report still has an open status while SUPD finishes their investigation into the claims.

According to SU's website while both chapters are on suspension they are unable to vote on any fraternity/sorority business or attend council meetings. They also are not permitted to participate in or sponsor any events whether that be campus-wide or specifically Fraternity and Sorority Life events.

"If organizations are found responsible of serious hazing allegations...then the suspension time is dependent on the severity of the action," Hanner said. "I want to say that two years is pretty common for a first offense, if it's a second or more serious offense it could be 5-10 years."

SU's website also chronicles past hazing incidents with at least one every other year since 2013. Two years ago an organization was placed on probation for one semester after being found responsible, while four years ago there was an organization on probation for five semesters.

Hanner could not comment in detail about either case regarding the allegations or investigation, especially while both are still ongoing.

/ Emma Reider image

SU names new PR director Jason Rhodes

SAMANTHA SELTZER
/ Staff writer

CAMPUS — Following a nationwide search for the replacement of longtime public relations director Richard Culver, Salisbury University has its new spokesperson.

After almost 16 years working with SU's Public Relations Office, Jason Rhodes was named Culver's successor. As the new PR director and spokesperson, Rhodes now steps up to serve as an important face of the university to the media and more.

Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs Jason Curtin put the value of having a quality PR director into perspective.

"If you think about [Salisbury University] as an institution, we are one of the largest organizations in the Salisbury area," said Curtin. "Having a well-qualified PR spokesperson to not only promote all the great things that are happening at the university but a someone who can handle responsibilities in crisis' is vital."

Curtin also expressed his appreciation for Rhodes' dedication to SU.

"I think he is a consonant professional and his ability to represent the University across the spectrum [of media] ... I have the utmost confidence in Jason," Curtin said.

According to an official press release from SU, Rhodes obtained a bachelor's degree in mass communication from Towson University before he spent several years working with Eastern Shore print and broadcast media.

Rhodes had previously served as an assistant director at the SU Public Relations Office since 2003.

"I've been working under Richard Culver for almost 16 years now," Rhodes said. "I have seen the office evolve and grow and I look forward to being a part of that as it continues."

Rhodes has been involved in many fundamental university processes such as writing public service announcements, press releases, the weekly SU e-news newsletter, recording radio broadcasts,

planning media events and planning and managing press conferences.

Through his consistency with the university, Rhodes holds important experience moving forward having been a part of many key changes that have come during his time here. Through announcements of new colleges, the passing of the presidential torch last year and many other moments at the university, Rhodes serves as another key change under President Charles Wright.

Rhodes will maintain previous duties but in an expanded manner such as overseeing "setting media policy."

Rhodes will also take on the roll as Salisbury University's official media spokesperson meaning he will be the "go-to" contact for media outlets. When media outlets would contact SU in the past, the PR department would be tasked with "finding the right person" in the certain department.

Today, in his new position, Rhodes will work with those offices to cover the topic in question and then prepare an of-



JASON RHODES

ficial statement in form of an in-person interview or press release.

Rhodes believes that this will allow his office to "serve the media quicker and better" than before.

"(I'm) looking forward to being a part of Salisbury [University] as it grows," Rhodes said. ■

Slurps signal new smoothie cafe success

LAURA AMRHEIN
/ Staff writer

SALISBURY, Md. — Returning from winter break, Salisbury students were greeted with not only a new semester, but a new café, The Tropical Smoothie Café.

The Tropical Smoothie Café had its grand opening on Jan. 15. It is located right across from Salisbury University, on the opposite side of Route 13.

The café's manager, Sam Mehta, noted that there were a few reasons for the choice of location, its proximity SU being one of them.

"[The location was chosen] first of all [because] of the availability and [because] the landlords were really nice and very easy to work with," Mehta said. "Being right across from the college was another reason we chose this location."

Tropical Smoothie Café offers a large menu that aims to offer nutritious food and drink to its customers. Customers can find a variety of sandwiches, smoothies, wraps, salads and more on the menu.

"Pretty much every time I go there, I get a protein shake of some sort," Salisbury student Brock Forsythe said.

Students such as Forsythe are heavily drawn to Tropical Smoothie Café due to the healthy options it offers.

Tropical Smoothie Café offers a large menu that aims to offer nutritious food and drink to its customers. Customers can find a variety of sandwiches, smoothies, wraps, salads and more on the menu.

"I like the atmosphere. It's really pretty in here," Hunter added.

While many in the Salisbury community are excited about Tropical Smoothie Café's arrival, some students are not convinced that the smoothies are truly a healthy alternative.

"I believe that if I am to get a smoothie from Tropical Smoothie Café, I might as well buy a soda along with it because of the sugar content," Salisbury local and student Aaron Steigler said. "I think the quality of the smoothie is very low quality."



/ KB Mensah image

Governors of Delmarva talk postponed

HANNAH HYAT
/ News editor

Due to recent political events, the Conversation with the Governors of Delmarva event has been postponed until further notice.

The Greater Salisbury Committee and Salisbury University organized the unprecedented program to allow Republican Gov. Larry Hogan of Maryland, Democratic Gov. John Carney of Delaware and Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam of Virginia to "reveal more" about themselves.

"A conversation, we call it that on purpose because it is not a town hall, it is not a debate, it is not a forum," Mike Dunn, president and CEO of the Greater Salisbury Committee, said. "The concept is both policy stuff and no policy."

The CEO expressed the occasion was an opportunity for the audience to get to know the guests on a more personal level.

"Questions like, you know — tell us about the job — tell about your day — the best part — the worst part," Dunn said. "We thought it was the best thing to do, under the circumstances."

According to The Washington Post, on Feb. 10, Northam considered resigning amid a scandal that he once wore blackface.

The Washington Post published that the scandal broke after a racist photo surfaced from Northam's 1984 medical school yearbook showing a person wearing blackface next to a second person wearing a Ku Klux Klan hood and robe.

The inspiration for the historic event came after the organizers realized it had never been done before.

And, the community response was overwhelmingly positive.

"To our knowledge, it has never happened before — the three governors of Delmarva on Delmarva," Dunn said. "It was significant ... we have received a tremendous amount of excitement from people on Delmarva."

The GSC announced on Feb. 8 that the event would be postponed on until further

notice. The announcement came shortly after Northam was found at the center of a political scandal.

"We're all aware of what's going on in the state of Virginia," Dunn said. "We thought it was the best thing to do, under the circumstances."

According to The Washington Post, on Feb. 10, Northam considered resigning amid a scandal that he once wore blackface.

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The postponement date for the event has not been officially set, but the coordinators ensured the conversation will happen at a more appropriate time. ■



from left:
DEL. GOV. JOHN CARNEY
MD. GOV. LARRY HOGAN
VA. GOV. RALPH NORTHAM

"It was a unique idea and it still will be," Dunn said. "When we reschedule — it still will be ... all three administrations have committed to do this event — so when the time is right, we will attempt to make this happen again." ■

SU faculty is leading community growth far beyond campus boundaries

KWAME MENSAH
/ Staff writer

CAMPUS — Salisbury University is leading community growth beyond its campus.

SU's Executive Director for Economic Development William Burke and Director of SU's Center for Extended and Lifelong Learning (CELL) Mary Angela Baker recently graduated from the Leadership Maryland program.

After eight months of learning Maryland's most vital social, economic and environmental issues, the pair is primed to use their acquired knowledge to benefit SU and the surrounding community.

"By getting involved with Leadership Maryland, you're meeting with people from all different business sectors, all different types of leaderships, all different types of viewpoints," said Burke. "and so you're expanding your leadership position way beyond the area you lead."

Burke and Baker were among 50 applicants selected who spent over half a year, learning about the state of Maryland, the critical and unique issues it faces, and successful solutions to these problems.

Burke expressed how the strong chemistry between the applicants created an exciting and productive learning experience.

"They all understood why they were there. They all had the right types of personality and attitudes, and they knew what the objective was. It ended up being a very exciting opportunity," said Burke.

One of Leadership Maryland's primary goals is to create opportunities for change and empowerment on a local community level, as well as broadening the perspectives of leaders to problems outside their geographical or occupational realm.

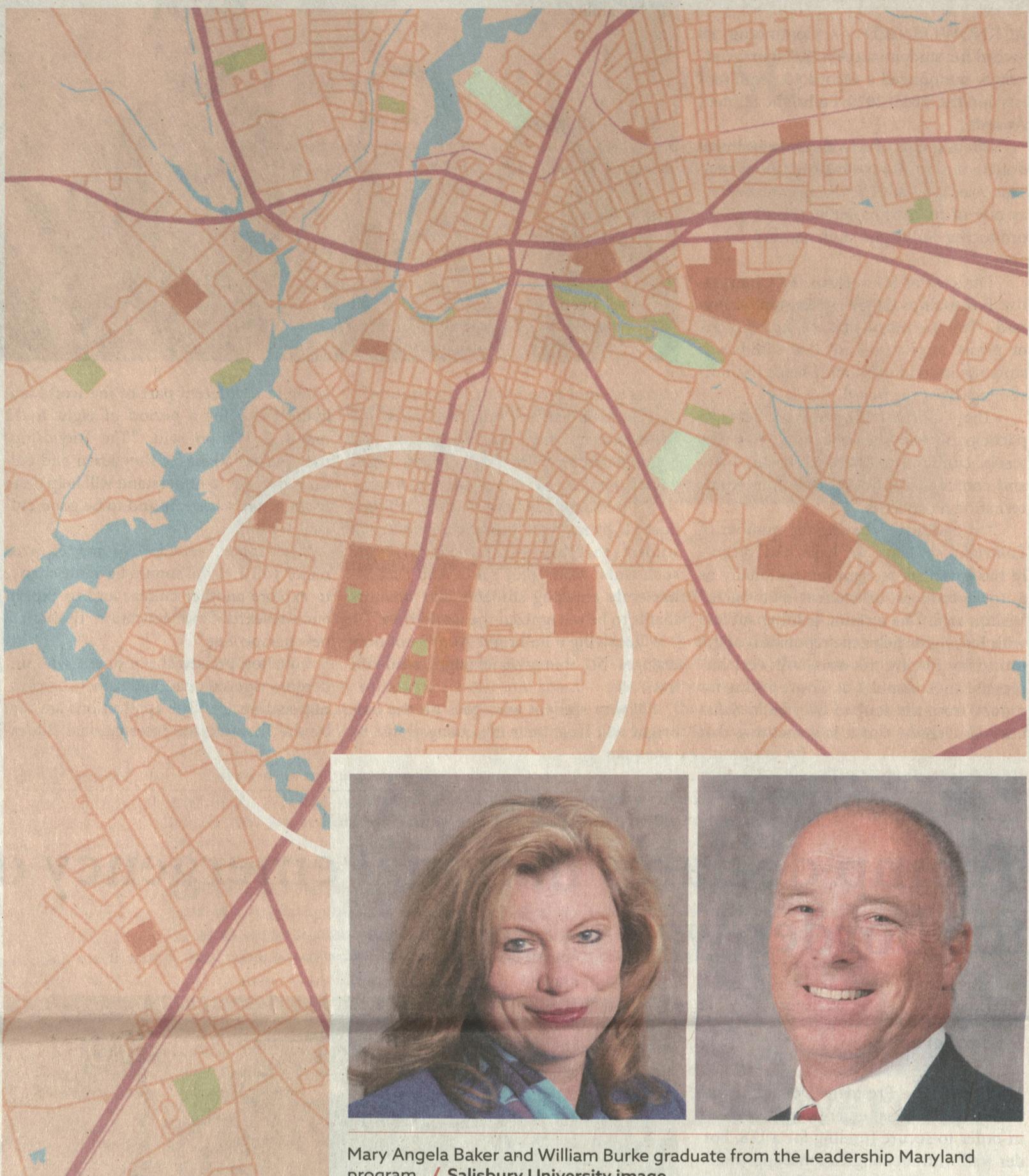
Burke and Baker were able to visit Baltimore with Leadership Maryland and observe various programs dedicated to providing opportunities for youths in Baltimore to stay on a positive track.

"In Baltimore, there are a number of issues in regards to youth going to school, completing school," said Burke.

Leadership Maryland puts leaders in a position to not only observe problems, but discuss solutions among various positions of responsibility.

One program that Burke and Baker observed placed middle and high school students in proximity to educated professionals to show them the benefits of an education and a career.

"They'd start them doing some task or activity, and it helps reinforce the fact that



Mary Angela Baker and William Burke graduate from the Leadership Maryland program. / Salisbury University image

"hey, wouldn't this job be easier if you had the education?," said Burke.

The chance to exchange ideas with other types of leaders is invaluable experience.

Burke found that working with people in roles different than his here at SU opened his eyes to new possibilities.

"Typically, if you're a leader of an organization or a department, or a campus,

or a business or whatever, over time you end up getting a 'supported view,'" said Burke. "You're internalizing the view you see around your department, organization, etc."

True to SU's vision for a thriving community here on the Eastern Shore, Burke plans to employ his newfound perspective right away.

Among many, one of Burke's future

responsibilities will be the soon-to-open Center for Entrepreneurship in Downtown Salisbury. The center opens in spring 2020, and will provide a space for student entrepreneurs, local businesses and citizens to meet and collaborate.

"We're not just representing students and the campus, but supporting various businesses and leadership in the community," Burke said. ■

Olmstead

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those pieces work together every single day, and in the provost position, do you have that sense of how everybody works together in that sense."

President Charles A. Wright voiced strong support for Olmstead after her appointment.

"Dr. Olmstead has demonstrated a style of leadership that is both strategic and collegial in working with the faculty and executive staff. She is moving the academic mission of the university forward," Wright said. "I have gained a solid level of trust in her abilities in the short time since I began my presidency at SU, and I am confident that she will continue to have a strong focus on serving the educational needs of SU students."

For the new provost, the feeling is mutual, and she believes her strong relationship with the university president is something that will benefit productivity.

"I really like to compliment his focus on engaging with the community, on student success, on getting more students into our campus and sending them

out successfully," said Olmstead. "He is a straight shooter and I think we have a lot of nice synergy."

The University of Maryland alumna said Thursday that she plans to focus on strategic planning, fundraising and most importantly, communication.

The strategic planning process is a campus-wide initiative which includes organization for influential campus procedures. These procedures include planning for faculties, enrollment, funding, student experiences and diversifying our campus.

Olmstead added she also wants to make improving communication on campus a priority.

"Outside those big things, my real focus is on just increasing communication," Olmstead said. "I want to try to communicate more regularly with students and faculty ... to make sure that everybody knows what is going on and [everyone is] moving forward."

According to a university press release, Olmstead's experience of academic administration at SU extends over 25 years. When Olmstead started out her career, academic administration was not something she expected to pursue.

"I think it's fair to say when I started

Write for News

contact editor
Hannah Hyat
for information

SU qualifies 13 Fulbright semifinalists

SAMANTHA SELTZER
/ Staff writer

ACKNOWLEDGED — Continuing its record for student success, Salisbury University announced a record 13 semifinalists for the 2019-2020 Fulbright Student Awards.

The number of semifinalists is almost double that of the 2017-2018 school year. This year, the Fulbright Program listed SU as one of its top master's institutions for producing Fulbright students and scholars.

Director of SU's Nationally Competitive Fellowships Office Dr. Kristen Walton said, "For the university, the students are of prime importance, so that builds our students individually [and] helps the university across the board."

The Fulbright Program provides its participants with the opportunity to study, teach, conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to international concerns.

"In addition ... having the number of Fulbright students we have had recently has given us recognition nationally as a top producer of student Fulbrights," Walton said. "As a result, gaining success with Fulbrights helps the reputation of the university. Finally, this also looks very impressive in Annapolis, as we are asking for money from the state to help build Salisbury University, and it is something that



makes alumni proud of their institution."

Senior Katerina Rodriguez endeavors to become an "East Asian historian" and believes that receiving the Fulbright award will also impact SU in a positive manner.

"I personally believe that this will impact SU by showing prospective Fulbright students that they are capable of achieving such feats," Rodriguez said. "And that SU has truly amazing students and mentors that is to be recognized the world over."

Receiving a Fulbright Award not only changes SU, but also changes students' lives.

"Every student who goes on the Fulbright will have their life changed just by

going to a different part of the world and living there for a period of eight to 12 months," Walton said. "The friendships they make, languages they learn and cultures they get to understand will help them in their future careers and to be good citizens for life."

Rodriguez added, "No matter what major you are, you should have the chance to explore another culture and to experience research and education through a new perspective."

Walton praised the winners, who undergo a rigorous national screening committee. Usually, "The applications are sent by the Institute for International Education

Five of SU's 13 Fulbright semifinalists, from left: Nancy Avila, Catherine Raley, David Basom, Marie Hils and Tara Ward. / Salisbury University image

to the countries, where a committee in [the] country will make the final decisions."

Walton concluded, "These students are excellent role models for future students who can now hopefully see themselves accomplishing similar goals."

Trump declares national emergency over funding for border wall

SOFIA CARRASCO
/ Editorial editor

NATIONAL — President Donald Trump declared a national emergency on Feb. 15 in order to secure funding for a U.S. border wall without congressional approval.

This comes directly after Congress passed a spending bill that included \$1.375 billion for 55 miles of new fencing along the border, significantly less than the \$5.7 billion Trump requested.

The signing of this bill narrowly avoided another government shutdown and will keep the government temporarily open through Sep. 30.

Trump continued to insist that securing the border is vital during his announcement Friday morning in the White House Rose Garden.

"We're talking about an invasion of our country with drugs, with human traffickers with all types of criminals and gangs," Trump said.

This declaration is being met with fierce opposition from both Democrats and Republicans and will most likely be challenged in the courts for months.

Trump has repeatedly stated that he would declare a national emergency in order to secure funding for the wall. This has caused many to argue that he has fabricated the border crisis and is instating a national emergency simply to expedite his campaign promise of a border wall before the 2020 election.

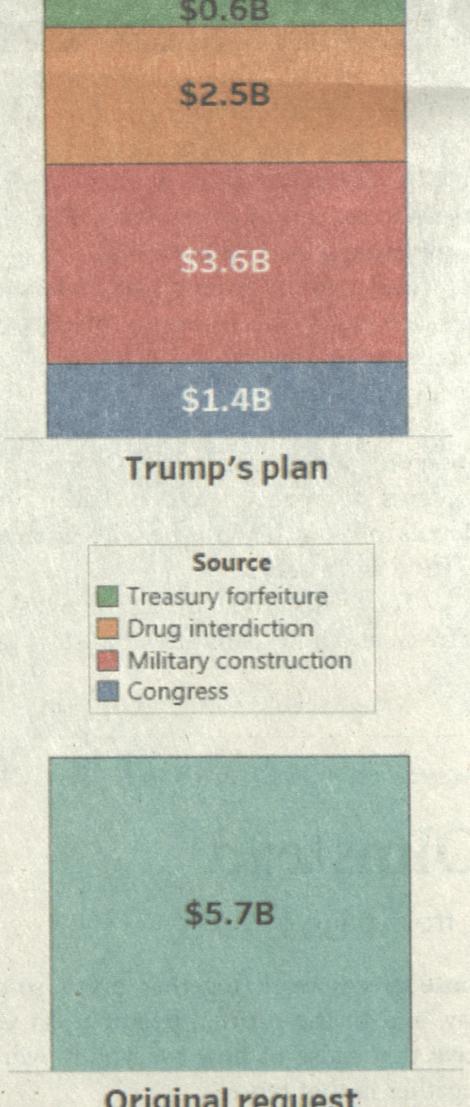
"I could do the wall over a longer period of time," Trump said on Friday. "I didn't need to do this, but I'd rather do it much faster."

Trump's plan intends to pool approximately \$8 million for the border wall, including the \$1.4 billion allocated toward border security in the new spending bill.

He primarily will take this money from different sectors in the Department of Defense, including \$3.6 billion from military construction and \$2.5 billion from the military's counter-narcotics fund.

Trump also plans to take \$600 million from the Treasury Department drug forfeiture funds, according to White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate minority leader Chuck



Pres. Trump announces emergency. / VOX and CNBC images

Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who blames the Democrats.

"The U.S. Chamber urges the president not to attempt to declare a national emergency. Instead, we urge the president and members of Congress of both parties to negotiate and find common ground on immigration and border security," Donohue said. "The declaration of national emergency in this instance will create a dangerous precedent that erodes the very system of government that has served us so well for over 200 years."

Other Democrats like Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) have taken to social media to voice criticisms of Trump's actions.

"Donald Trump may not like it, but we are not an authoritarian country," Sanders said. "We have a constitution and separation of powers. There is no 'national emergency,' and Trump cannot build his

wall without congressional approval."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce urged Trump to not declare a national emergency, calling it an "unlawful declaration over a crisis that does not exist," and that "Congress cannot let the President shred the Constitution."

"The President's actions clearly violate the Congress's exclusive power of the purse, which our Founders enshrined in the Constitution," the two leaders said. "The Congress will defend our constitutional authorities in the Congress, in the Courts, and in the public, using every remedy available."

Some Republicans worry that if Trump is successful, future Democratic presidents will announce a national emergency for other partisan issues such as universal health care and gun reform.

Congressional Democrats are not going down without a fight and have 15 days to pass a resolution of disapproval to stop the national emergency in both the House and the Senate. ■

TheFLYER EDITORIAL

CONTACT

(410) 543-6191
Student Activities (Office 125)
Guerrieri Student Union
Salisbury, Md. 21801

Chase Gorski
Editor-in-Chief
cgorski1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Hannah Hyat
News Editor
hhyat1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Sofia Carrasco
Editorial Editor
scarrasco1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Caroline Streett
Gull Life Editor
cstreett1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Holly Ferris
Sports Editor
hferris1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Allison Guy
Copy Editor
aguy7@gulls.salisbury.edu

Emma Reider
Photo Editor
ereider3@gulls.salisbury.edu

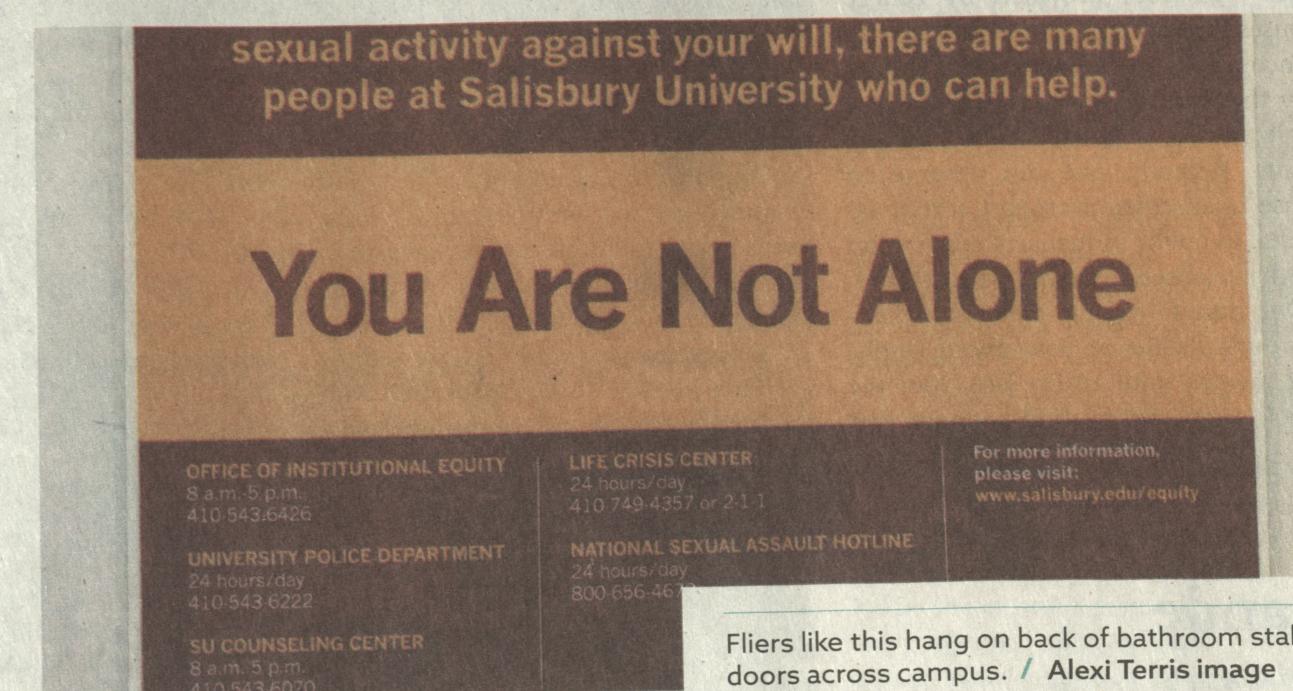
Sawyer Cornelius
Content Designer
rcornelius1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Amy Wojtowicz
Graphics Editor
awojtowicz4@gulls.salisbury.edu

Megan Campbell
Advertising Manager
mcampbell16@gulls.salisbury.edu

Ricky Pollitt
Community Adviser
rpollitt@delmarvanow.com

You are not alone at SU



Fliers like this hang on back of bathroom stall doors across campus. / Alexi Terris image

sary resources they need in harmful situations. SU has had 14 reported cases of sexual assault in the past three years, all of which occurred on campus. These statistics show that as students move off campus, they are less likely to report an incident of sexual assault. These posters in the bathrooms allow women to get the information they need, whether assault happens on campus or off.

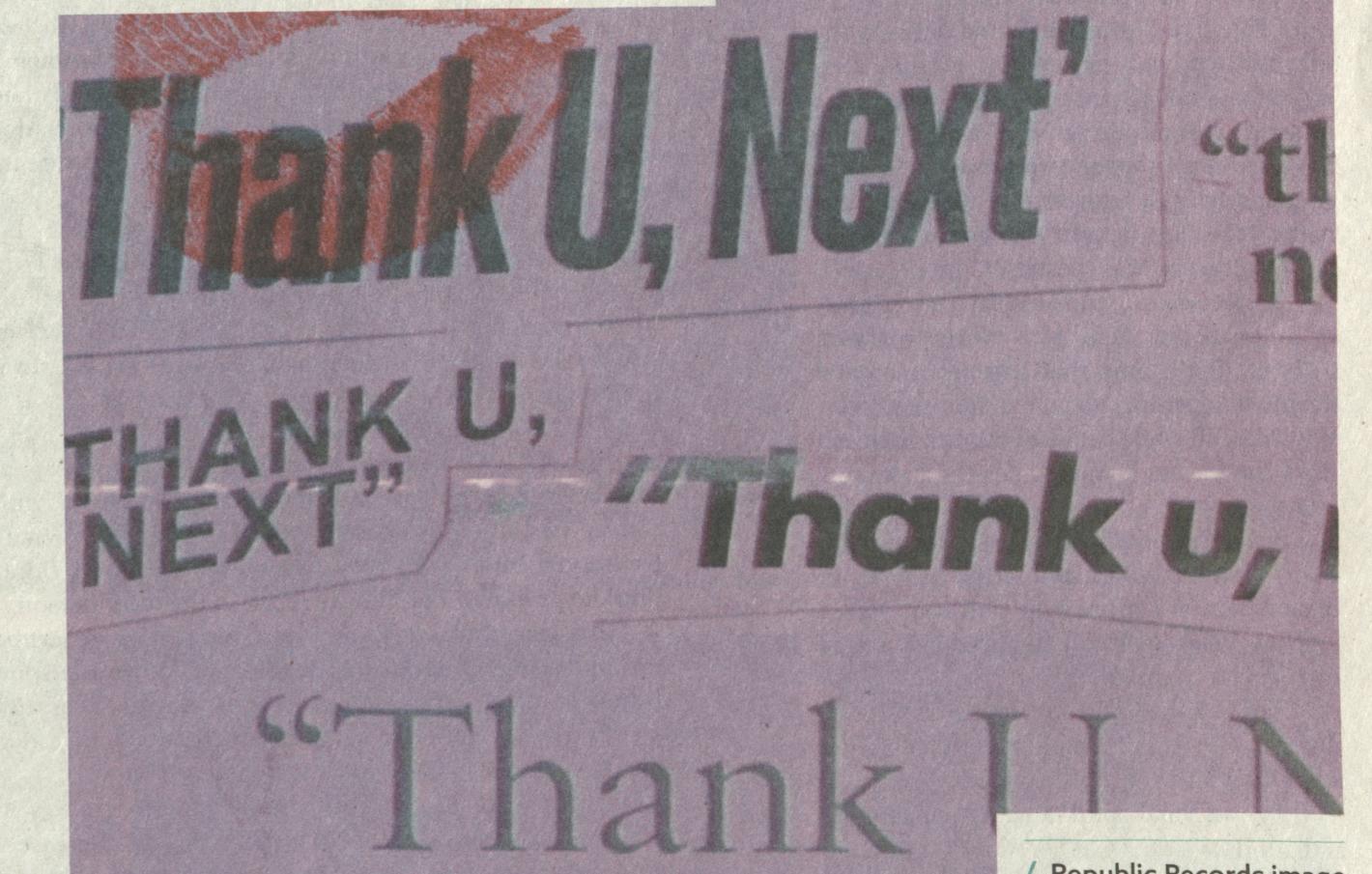
Hadley Miller, freshman at SU, thinks the posters are an important resource for women on campus and show the university's dedication to fostering a safe and healthy campus.

"I think it's great that Salisbury shows their support towards victims of sexual assault by having those fliers put up in the bathrooms," Miller said. "I can see

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Ariana Grande's controversial rise to pop fame

ALEXI TERRIS / Staff writer



Republic Records image

Write to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Students, please include your name and class. Faculty members, please include your department. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. The Flyer reserves the right to refrain from publishing any text. Please email your letter as an attachment to Editor-in-Chief Chase Gorski, or in person at Office 125-M in GSU's Student Activities Center (CSIL). Deadline for submission is Friday at 5 p.m. Please email letters subjected "Letter to the Editor."

Chase Gorski
cgorski1@gulls.salisbury.edu
Editor-in-Chief

ENTERTAINMENT — Ariana Grande has been all over social media following the release of her fifth album "Thank U, Next" last Friday and her first-ever Grammy Award win for Best Pop Vocal Album for "Sweetener" on Feb. 8.

"Thank U, Next" is Grande's second album to be released in less than six months and is already #1 on both Apple Music and Spotify's top charts. Along with her album, she also released two music videos for singles on her album, "7 rings" and "break up with your girlfriend, I'm bored."

The album features twelve songs that allude to Grande's personal life and everything that the young female artist has gone through over the course of her music career, including breaking off an engagement

to recent fiancé Pete Davidson and mourning the loss of longtime friend and boyfriend of two years Mac Miller.

Whether it was having her relationships exploited on social media or coping with the trauma post-Manchester bombing, Grande has carried herself with strength and dignity through it all, refusing to stray from staying true to herself in the industry she finds herself in.

Grande's fans have been patiently waiting to hear her album and the track "Needy" after she shared a portion of the song on her Instagram back in October. She captioned the teaser video, "tell me how

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why the fliers may go unnoticed or overlooked by some individuals, but for the ones who are looking for a sign to reach out for help, I think it speaks to them. Not only does it represent the support our school shows, but also, the resources they have allocated and are willing to provide to do whatever they can to help students."

The resources provided by college campuses today remind students that they are encouraged to reach out for help, no matter the issue, because at the end of the day, all they want is what is best for the students. Recently, one can observe an increase in discussion around sexual assault due to public influencers opening up through social media to share their stories.

One minute you are aimlessly scrolling through Twitter on your phone laughing at memes until reality hits you; the "News for you" notification pops up, and

instantly your eyes are drawn into it.

Your trembling thumb clicks the notification out of curiosity, and the title reads, "R. Kelly's accusers speak out in six-part docu-series." Just like that, your ordinary day takes a dark turn in means of paying attention to the unfortunate realities occurring in today's society.

On Jan. 4, a three-night documentary series called "Surviving R. Kelly" aired on Lifetime, providing an outlook for the voices of women who survived the horrible behavior of R. Kelly. Kelly is known as a famous R&B artist who rose to fame during the 2000s by creating a career for himself based on the sexual messages conveyed through his music.

The creation of this raw and honest documentary has brought more public awareness to the subject of sexual assault in means of trying to destroy the stigma that continues to surround it.

As a society, we have progressed toward burying the stigma associated with reaching out for help concerning sexual

assault. The increase in social media use has positively affected this prominent societal issue.

From creating the #MeToo Movement to having television stations like Lifetime, one can see how the increase in awareness regarding the subject has encouraged victims of sexual assault to come forward and share their stories.

You have a voice. You deserve to be heard. You are not alone.

For more information on SU's sexual misconduct policy, click here.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, please contact any one of these resources or talk to a trusted adult.

Office of Institutional Equity: (410) 543-6426; University Police Department: (410) 543-6222; SU Counseling Center: (410) 543-6070; Life Crisis Center: 410-(749) 4357 or 2-1-1; National Sexual Assault Hotline: (800) 656-4673.

Write for Editorial

contact editor
Sofia Carrasco
for information

Grande

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good it feels to be needed." Fans speculated the song implies that Grande is referencing the judgment she received on her public engagement with Davidson.

But the female pop sensation does not shy away from reinforcing the message of women's empowerment throughout her album. The song "NASA" references the famous quote of Neil Armstrong which states, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." However, she puts her own artistic flare on it by changing "man" to "woman" as well as "mankind" to "womankind."

The inclusion of a song like "NASA" allows Grande's fans to see the connection between the strong woman she portrays herself to be in relation to the difficult times she has gone through recently.

Cate Tassone, freshman at SU, isn't into Grande's sound, but believes in her message.

"I am not the biggest fan of Ariana Grande's music," Tassone said. "However, I support her because she I think she is a strong woman."

Grande managed to capture her message behind an album as personal as "Thank U, Next" through a song title, "Fake Smile." The song opens with a snippet of "After Laughter (Come Tears)" by the famous '60s singer Wendy Rene.

Grande states before the commencement of the chorus, "I can't fake another smile / I can't fake like I'm alright." Not only do the title and the lyrics express the genuine feelings that Grande is trying to cope with in the midst of furthering her career, but Grande has also bravely opened up about her experience and struggle with anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder after the bombing at her 2017 concert in Manchester.

The courage Grande displays never ceases to amaze her fans. Her efforts in trying to break the stigma that surrounds mental health to opening up about her past relationships, all while dealing with the backlash from the media, demonstrates the true warrior she is.

But not all hold Grande in the same light. Many view her album and recent fame as an exploitation of her breakup with Mac Miller and his subsequent passing, causing a sour taste in some fans' mouths.

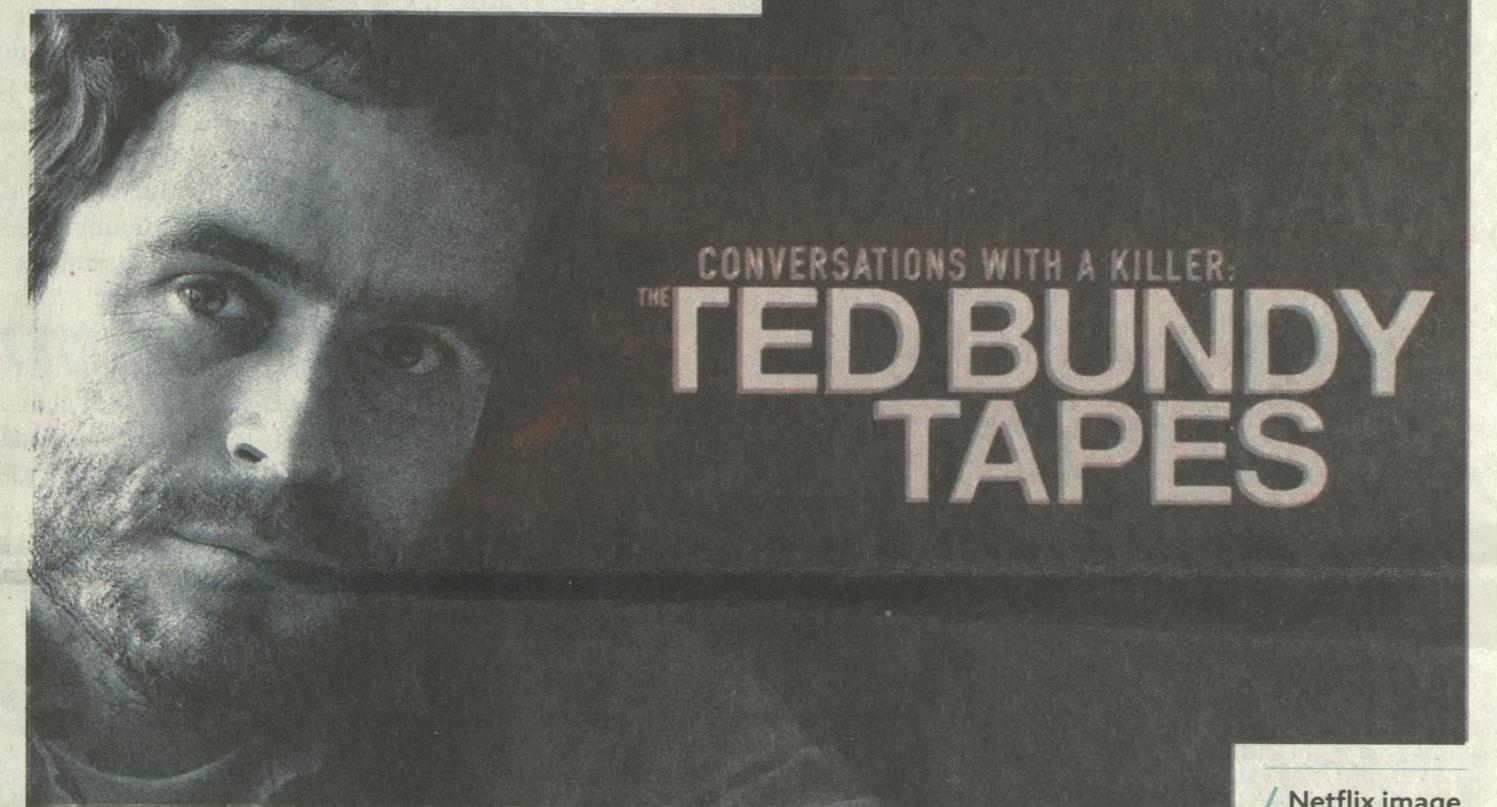
Emily Lane, also a freshman at SU, doesn't like all the media attention Grande has gotten over the past few years.

"My personal opinion on Ariana Grande is that I don't care what goes on in the media about her, because it is unimportant to society as a whole," Lane said. "I feel as though all this entertainment and celebrity gossip is just a distraction from more pressing news that should be displayed in the media."

Grande's new music video "break up with your girlfriend, I'm bored" has also struck a negative chord with the LGBTQ+ community and has been called "queerbaiting" by some fans. The music video has a plot twist ending when, instead of kissing the guy, Grande leans in to kiss the girl who closely resembles the star.

America's Ted Bundy binge

SOFIA CARRASCO / Editorial editor



ENTERTAINMENT — We have become fascinated with true-crime stories because of our deep desire to understand how someone could commit horrendous crimes, especially murder and rape.

This has resulted in a sudden wave of content surrounding the infamous serial killer Ted Bundy, who was executed 30 years ago for murdering at least 30 women.

The story of his life and crimes has most recently been depicted in Netflix's documentary series "Confessions with a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes," which was directed by Joe Berlinger.

The four-episode series focuses on Bundy and the heinous crimes he committed during the '70s and '80s across seven different states. During this time, serial killings peaked and the actual term "serial killer" was invented. Although it wasn't that long ago, DNA testing was in its infancy and there were no national or state databases to connect his crimes together.

The backbone of the series relies on the interviews conducted in 1980 by reporter Stephen Michaud while Bundy was sitting on death row. Michaud admits that a traditional interview style was not working with Bundy until he proposed that Bundy speak in the third person.

The narration of Bundy analyzing his own crimes through a hypothetical man sends chills down the spine. Bundy admits to brutally murdering and sexually assaulting 30 women, although some commentary led investigators to believe he killed closer to a hundred women.

Along with the tapes, this show expertly weaves interviews with individuals who were involved in his case or who knew him, with archival videos and images from the time of his crimes.

Bundy is repeatedly characterized as "attractive," "boy next door" and "charming." In reality, he was extremely egotistical, self-righteous and cunning, which allowed him to escape jail not once, but twice. Still, the testimonies from close friends, colleagues and family indicate that some believed he was innocent.

The discussion of Bundy's attractiveness and charisma has only skyrocketed since the announcement and trailer release of the new film "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile" starring Zac Efron.

Social media exploded after viewing the trailer that showcases Bundy in an almost romantic comedy type of film, which is a stark contrast to the way he is depicted

in Confessions of a Killer. But both the film and the documentary series were directed by Berlinger, so the trailer may have been purposely misleading in order to gain publicity.

Netflix also recently acquired the film for \$9 million, according to The Hollywood Reporter, allowing Netflix to have a monopoly on the most recent Bundy content. Many speculate that the movie will be released in the fall to give Efron and co-star Lily Collins the best shot during awards season.

But not everyone is tuning in to the Bundy craze. Annie Geitner, freshman at Salisbury University, hasn't watched the "Ted Bundy Tapes" and doesn't plan on it.

"I don't understand everyone's obsession with this show and I think people calling him 'hot' on Twitter is really disturbing," Geitner said. "I just think about the families and friends of the girls who were murdered and raped by Bundy and how they must feel about him getting all this attention."

And after all these years, the attention and hype Bundy is receiving about his crimes would've made him ecstatic.

But the "Bundy binge" doesn't end with the tapes or with Efron. Another documentary on Bundy directed by Celene Beth Calderon is expected to release later this year.

Calderon is the first woman to direct a documentary on Bundy and it will focus on the "individuals who had personal or professional relationships with Bundy, including those who were left with the broken pieces of his atrocities," Calderon said.

Ultimately, that is what "Confessions of a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes" fails to do. It hardly explores the stories of Bundy's victims and how his trail of terror forever affected their families and friends.

The show does feature Carol DaRonch, a woman who barely escaped Bundy in 1976 after being abducted from a mall in Salt Lake City, Utah. DaRonch then went on to testify against Bundy in a trial where he was representing himself. But this is only a small part of the entire series.

"Confessions of a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes" is overall well-edited and captivating, but leaves the viewer wanting more. We never figure out what drove him to kill or why he chose his victims.

The series ends with, "People are ultimately unknowable, and Bundy is no exception."

Reviewed: Salisbury's best bars

SOFIA CARRASCO / Editorial editor
@soso_coco

REVIEW — Whether you are new to Salisbury or just turned 21, here is your guide to the best bars in Salisbury based on happy hours and weekly SU student traditions.

Brew River — Located at 502 W Main St., is the largest and most popular bar for Salisbury students. Brew has three bars total, the main sports bar, river bar, and dock bar. The sports bar is the main bar, featuring multiple TV's, lights and a DJ booth in the corner. The river bar has an outside/inside feel to it and is where Brew hosts all of their concerts. But the dock bar is the main attraction for students as it sits right on the Wicomico river.

Nigel Robinson, senior at SU, says Brew is the best bar to go at night if you want to dance, especially when the dock bar opens in mid-March.

"Dock bar is the best because everyone is out there and together. When dock bar is open, I can go sober and still get drinks easily. And someone is bound to jump in the water" Robinson said.

Brew also has specials such as 2 for 1 on Tuesdays where you can get two drinks for the price of one. But the most popular night for Brew is College Night on Thursdays, where cover is only \$5. Brew also has happy hour Monday-Friday 4-7 p.m., Saturday 3-6 p.m. and Football specials 12 p.m.- 8 p.m. If you are looking for loud music, a lot of dancing and relatively cheap drinks then Brew is your place. Saferide also picks up from Brew and is an option at the end of the night.

The Warehouse — located across campus at 1147 Salisbury Blvd. and is the closest thing Salisbury has to a club atmosphere. They have two bars inside, but it is usually a long wait to get drinks if it's a packed night. Cover is \$10 for non-SU students, but if you bring your SU ID it is only \$5. The drinks at Warehouse can be on the pricey side, but offer larger drinks called barrels in over 21 flavors at \$14 a piece.

Wesley Myrer, senior at SU, enjoys going to Warehouse on Saturday nights.

"Warehouse is the move on Saturdays," Myrer said. "It's the best place to dance, but it can get really crowded and sweaty fast and the service can take awhile."

Although Warehouse is usually the place to go on Saturdays they offer specials on Wednesday and Friday. Warehouse Wednesdays is no cover for college students with \$5 frozen barrels and \$8 normal barrels. Every Friday they have happy hour deals from 4-9 p.m. with free pool and snacks.

Hoppers — Located near campus at 1400 S. Salisbury Blvd and offers a more relaxed bar to drink at with friends. Hoppers is your one-stop-shop for food and drinks because it resides in a plaza with multiple restaurants including Wingin' It, Smoking BBQ Grille, WayBack Burgers, and Sushi Zay. They have tropical atmosphere with inside palm trees, lights, large picnic tables, and TV's for sporting events. Their specialty is craft beers, but they also have wine, cocktails nicknamed called "hop-tails" and their famous pickle shot.

Grad student Alexandra Chinn enjoys going to Hoppers because of its close proximity to campus and the food options.

"Hoppers is definitely a more family oriented bar and has a chillier vibe than Brew or some of the other bars in Salisbury," Chinn said. "I like all the food places around it and I enjoy going on Wednesdays for Kick The Keg."

Hoppers has Kick The Keg on Wednesdays from 7:30- 10:30 p.m. with three different beers from three different breweries, all for \$3. They also have happy hour everyday of the week from 3-7 p.m. If you are looking for a chillier place to drink, or hangout, than Hoppers is for you.

Market Street Inn — Located at 130 W. Market St and has more of a pub vibe with great drinks and good food. Whether it's grabbing a booth with friends and ordering food and drinks, or enjoying the live music they have on the weekends, Market's



Contributed images



relaxed atmosphere is great for all. Many SU students also like to go to Market on Thursday's for 2 for 1, before going to Brew.

Kendall Smith, a junior at SU, enjoys going to Market for food and drinks on Thursdays and Fridays.

"They have great food and their drinks are reasonably priced for the most part," Smith said. "It's also smaller than Brew so you're able to have more intimate conversations, but it's big enough where you can avoid someone if you want to."

Market has 2 for 1 on Thursdays from 9 p.m. - close and live entertainment on Fridays and Saturdays. Market has happy hour on Monday-Friday 4 - 7 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Market is the place if you want to hangout and have a chill night with friends.

The Brick room — Located at 116 North Division St. in Downtown Salisbury. Brick room is more of a sophisticated bar with a great staff and a unique, classy atmosphere. The drinks are reasonably priced and a great place to go for a low-key happy hour. The crowd is definitely catered to older people and Salisbury locals, but it is still a great place to go with friends. Grad student Kirby Given and senior Sophie Clendenin recently went for happy hour.

"Brick room has good prices, a cool alley and a very cozy atmosphere," Given said. "Brick room is hands down the best bar in Salisbury" Clendenin added.

Brick room has happy hour Tuesday-Saturday 4-7 p.m. and closes at midnight on weekdays. They have live music every Friday and Saturday night starting at 9 p.m. and closes at 2 a.m. Brick room is also closed on Sundays. If you are looking for a cozy and classy bar for a date or with friends then you should give Brick room a chance.

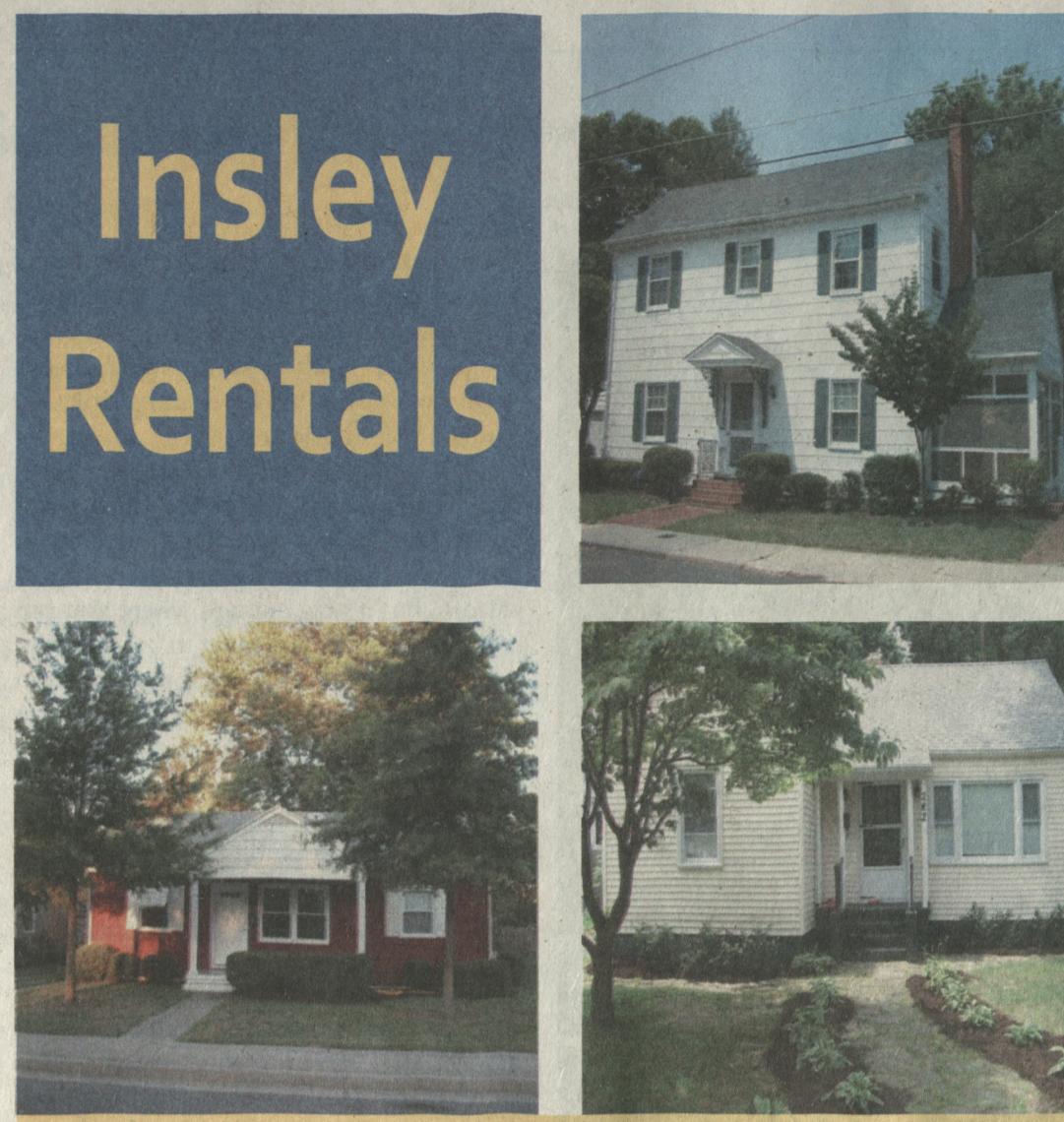
The Irish Penny Pub and Grill — Located at 1014 S. Salisbury Blvd. and within walking distance of campus. Irish Penny has a great pub atmosphere and is a place you can go with your family or friends. Christina Helowicz, senior at SU, loves going to Irish Penny with her friends after class is done with.

"It's right next to Fulton which is super nice after a long day in the studio," Helowicz said. "Their prices are good and it's always a fun environment when I go there. It's definitely the bar I go to the most often."

The Irish Penny has something going on almost every night of the week. Their happy hour is Monday-Thursday 9 p.m.-close, featuring \$2.50 domestic beers, \$3 rails and \$3 wines and cheap food options. On Monday nights, they have half price burgers. Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. they have live local music with Mickey Justice. They have Whiskey Wednesday's where all whiskey is 25% off from 4 p.m.-close. And every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays they have Hump Day Blues with an open jam blues night. One of the most popular nights for SU students is Thursday where they host Trivia Night and you can win \$100 in cash and gift cards. On Sunday's they have a BOGO dinner special where if you buy one dinner entree you get 50% off the 2nd entree of equal or lesser value. Irish Penny is a great place to drink and have a great time with friends.



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GULL LIFE

CAREER SERVICES HELPS STUDENTS SUCCEED / p10

Gulls migrate abroad for winter break

CAROLINE STREETT / Gull Life editor
@carolstreett

INTERNATIONAL — Studying abroad is an experience that a number of college students look forward to incorporating into their 4-year plan.

Whether it be through the obstacles of prior obligations, money or seemingly just not having a lot of time in their academic schedules, some students cannot commit to an entire semester abroad.

These obstacles do not mean you are inevitably stuck in the U.S. for the duration of your college experience. Salisbury University offers various opportunities for mini-mesters and programs offered in winter and summer terms. This gives students the opportunity to travel without such large time and money constraints.

Junior Julia Mann took advantage of SU's study abroad program this winter as she traveled to Edinburgh Scotland to study communications.

"I always have wanted to study abroad and coming into college I wanted to study abroad for a whole semester, but I ended up really enjoying my time here at Salisbury, so I didn't want to leave for an entire semester," Mann said.

Mann decided to go on the Scotland study abroad trip because it was a 2-week program offered over winter break.

Going across the country to a place where you know no one, and nothing about the culture can be scary. Having never been out of the country, Mann was set on choosing an English-speaking country to "lessen the culture shock" and "make things easier."

Despite sharing a common language, Scotland displayed a great deal of differences in comparison to the U.S.

"People-wise there's a much greater presence of national pride in Scotland, and definitely a unity within the country and I feel like that's something that we don't nec-

essarily see in the U.S. just because we are such a diverse country," Mann said.

Mann also explained that the Scottish overall seemed to be more open-minded, welcoming and generous.

Mann's favorite part of the trip was being able to travel and bond with her peers, along with appreciate all the unique architecture and history of the three castles that the group visited.

To those who have not studied abroad and are thinking about it, Mann highly recommends it based off of her new perspective on the world following her trip.

"Anything that gets you outside of your comfort zone is good for you, but especially being able to study abroad you're learning in a new place which is extra outside of your comfort zone," Mann said.

"And it just gives you the opportunity to see from other perspectives and realize that what you're used to isn't all that's out there. I think everybody should travel."

Senior Jay Howlin never felt the need to leave SU for an entire semester, but also was intrigued to learn in another country.

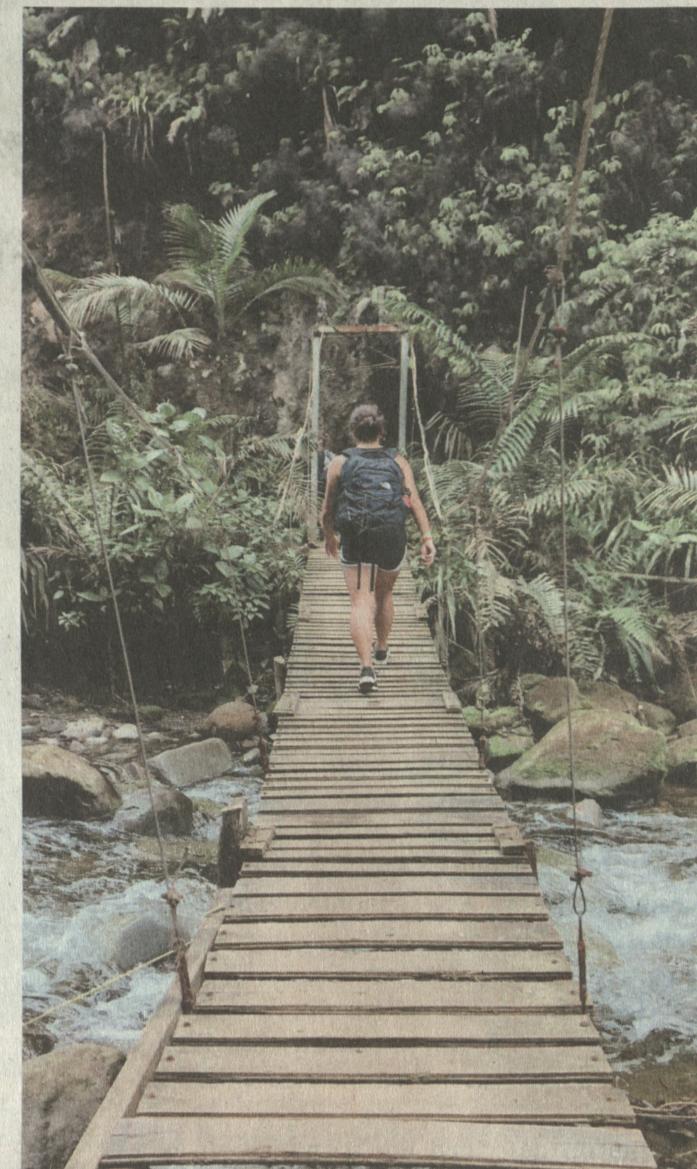
This past winter Howlin packed his bags and traveled to Mumbai, India for three weeks and was able to fulfill his internship credits while taking in a plethora of worldly experiences along the way.

One experience that particularly stood out to Howlin was the looting monkeys who were not afraid of people in the slightest and took no shame in breaking into rooms, going through bags and stealing whatever they wanted.

"It wasn't funny at the time, but looking back on it it's pretty funny," Howlin said. "A monkey, specifically a Macaque, broke into my hotel room and went through my backpack and stole my candy."

According to Howlin, monkeys are sacred in Hinduism, so they are protected from the dangers of poaching.

Winter abroad / page 6



Colliton explores Valverde Vega, the 12th canton in the province of Alajuela in Costa Rica.

/ Rachel Colliton image

Off-campus housing and winter break ... ins?

SU students return from winter break to find houses broken into and personal possessions stolen

MEGAN SOUDER / Staff writer

SALISBURY, Md. — Winter break is a time that many Salisbury University students eagerly count down the days until; however, students aren't the only ones excited for their departure.

While students pack up their cars looking forward to a stress-free holiday, thieves often begin plotting their attacks on unoccupied homes.

According to US News, about 69 percent of students live in off-campus housing.

It's not hard to find someone on campus who has been victimized by a burglar. CrimeReports.com reported 100 incidents in Salisbury, Maryland including theft (74 percent), breaking and entering (24 percent) and robbery (2 percent).

SU junior Brooke Ward was one of the many impacted by the break-ins that occurred over winter break. Ward decided to move off campus to get more space for her money and claimed she "felt comfortable since she's from the area."

When asked how many property related incidences she thought occurred over break, Ward guessed around 50, but wasn't too surprised to hear there were 131 total property related incidences reported through CrimeReports.com, a crime-mapping site partnered with local law enforcement.

Ward's home, just a three-minute drive from campus, was robbed sometime over the New Year's holiday. According to Ward nothing was stolen, but the trespassers went through all of her belongings.

The SPD reported finding a Fanta soda bottle with DNA which Ward said "was promised to be tested but was never followed up on."

"It can happen anywhere," Ward reflects. "I grew up here and never thought it would happen to me but if you think about it, it can happen anywhere no matter where or who you are, it's going to happen."

In contrast to these experiences, SU Senior Frankie Shamrock claimed his landlord made all the difference in his circumstance.

Shamrock moved off campus for better parking and cheaper rent. According to Shamrock, about midway



SU senior Frankie Shamrock's house was broken into over winter break. / Megan Souder image

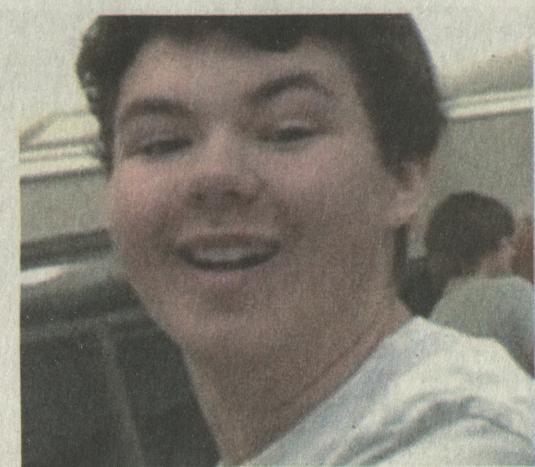
"He told us the neighborhood was OK but not the best, that's why he told us he would check up on us recently because he's had a history of people breaking into houses over times thieves know no one's home," Shamrock said.

Considering over half of SU's attendees live in off-campus housing, many students could benefit from the University taking more initiative in providing resources. SU does provide resources for off-campus residents such as rental resources, safety information and CrimeReports.com, but Shamrock suggests additional resources should be provided.

Shamrock thinks it would be helpful if the Salisbury University Police could patrol certain housing areas during breaks to deter other crimes to unoccupied homes.

Sophomore dies in car accident

CAROLINE STREETT
/ Gull Life editor



TYLER BIRCH

CAMPUS COMMUNITY — Salisbury University students are mourning following the death of their peer Tyler Birch, 19.

According to an email sent by SU Student Affairs, Birch passed as a result of a car accident in the Ocean City area on Tuesday, Feb. 5.

Described as "passionate and driven in his studies," Birch was a 2017 graduate of Stephen Decatur High School where he earned academic honors. As a sophomore at SU, Birch was studying and planned to pursue a career in engineering.

Long-time friend and peer of Birch, sophomore Grace Burton, explained that Birch's passing has had an impact on their close-knit friend group.

Burton described the friend group as a "second family" to her, and explained that without Birch, things haven't felt the same, but she's grateful they have each other to lean on during this difficult time.

Burton had nothing but good things to say about Birch and explained that although shy at first, Birch's laugh could liven up any room.

"Tyler was a really good friend," Burton said. "He was a very creative person, he loved writing stories, he loved finding out new things and exploring new topics."

To honor Birch's memory, the university held a celebration of life Sunday at the Ocean Pines Church.

Burton and several other friends spoke during the eulogy, and Burton feels that that's something Tyler would have wanted.

"Our whole friend group went up. There was, like, eight of us ... and we all went up and said something and we were all crying, but it just shows how much we love each other," Burton said.

"It's just like there's a hole where something's missing in our friend group."

The Birch family requests that in place of flowers, a donation in his memory may be sent to Worcester County Humane Society, P.O. Box 48, Berlin, Md. 21811. Letters of condolence may be sent via: www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

Write for Gull Life

contact editor
Caroline Streett
for information

Career Services helps students plan for success



MELANIE RAIBLE / Staff writer

CAREER SERVICES — Every year Salisbury University's Career Services Office hosts events on campus for students of all majors. This upcoming spring is jam-packed with a ton of job fairs and networking nights, so if you're looking for a job or an internship keep reading!

The Career Services Office is located in Suite 133 of the Guerrieri Student Union (next to Cool Beans) and is open all year long. The mission of Career Services is to "empower students to identify and maximize the connection between what they learn and how they make a living."

The center offers guidance to those students who do not have a clear goal in mind as to what exactly they want to do after they graduate.

All year long Career Services hosts events like job fairs and networking nights that were created to help students get their foot in the door and become better prepared for life after they get their degree.

Although both job fairs and networking nights were created with the same intention of helping students, they are not the same kind of event.

Associate Director of Career Services, Charlie Endicott explained the differences between job fairs and networking nights and highlighted that both are good venues for students to explore possible careers and figure out the things they can do with their degree.

"The job fairs are specific to employers that might have jobs or internships that may or may not be alumni representatives," Endicott said. "A networking night is where you go and typically meet alumni and you're able to talk to them and network with them."

In the upcoming months, Career Services is hosting several job fairs and networking nights. On March 5 the 2019 Spring Job and Internship Fair will take place at noon in MAGGS Physical Activities Center and will be open to all majors.

More than 100 employers will be at this event so through attending this fair students will be given a great opportunity to connect with various employers for full-time and internship opportunities.

If you want more information on these events you can visit <https://www.salisbury.edu/calendars/> or visit the Career Services Office which is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A student talks to one of the many potential employers who attended last semester's job fair.
/ Emma Reider image

Winter abroad

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"They kind of know that they're untouchable," Howlin said. "They'll steal your stuff that isn't food and they'll try to barter until you give them a water bottle or something like that."

Aside from the stealing monkeys, Howlin revealed that his experience in India was eye-opening in the way that the experience was all-around very humbling.

"We went in pretty amazing living conditions for what they have in India, and it still would not be considered as comfortable as living here," Howlin said. "We ate off of Mango leaves one day — we were served out coconuts by hand by this man who never looked like he'd seen a shower before."

One highlight of the trip included seeing the Konark Temple of the Sun God which was a lost temple rediscovered during British Imperialism that the Hindus would pray to in hopes of healing their leprosy.

"There's nothing like being submerged in a completely different culture, not speaking the language and spending an extended amount of time there. It's a lot different" Howlin said.

"I'd always known about third world poverty, but I'd never actually experienced it with my own eyes ... The only word I really have for it was humbling."

Junior Rachel Colliton's trip was similar to Howlin's in the way that her trip was also in a more impoverished area. It was another experience that opened her eyes to how different life can be in another country.

Colliton studied International Business in San José, Costa Rica. Her trip included tours of various businesses including a chocolate production farm and a pineapple production farm.

"I really like the chocolate factory," Colliton said. "Just seeing how cacao is made first hand and tasting that compared to a Hershey bar — it's such a big difference because cacao is not sweet at all. So, seeing that difference was like the coolest thing."

On the days that they weren't learning about the Costa Rican business world, Colliton was able to take in breathtaking views while touring San José. The group took excursions to the rainforest as well as went ziplining, horseback riding, experienced mud baths and sail boating.

Colliton said she would go back to Costa Rica without a doubt because of how much can be learned through the experience as well as how memorable the times she had abroad were.

"It's definitely cool to just see the culture difference, and then learning in a different country is just a bigger learning experience because you're not just learning in the classroom," Colliton said. "You are learning by just walking on the streets and talking to the citizens."

Students dive into learning environment

CAROLINE STREETT
/ Gull Life editor

CURRICULAR — Your average college classroom doesn't usually require a bathing suit and a snorkel, but Outdoor Education Leadership 210 is not your average college course.

ODEL 210 consists of the fundamental skills, techniques, knowledge and laws of scuba diving. The class places a strong emphasis on safety and recreational diving, as well as teachings on the environment and underwater sea creatures, and the end goal of the course is to become a certified scuba diver.

Teaching the course on the basics of scuba diving is instructor John Kiser who has certified more safe divers in the world than any other member of the Professional Association of Diving Instructors.

Kiser has been scuba diving for nearly his entire life after being inspired by a TV show, and he has been teaching full time since 1972.

"Lloyd Bridges with Sea Hunt was an old black and white TV show back in the late 50s or early 60s, so after charting the waters I learned how to dive when I was 12 years old," Kiser said.

Holding titles in the areas of military diving, commercial diving, and civilian recreational diving, and serving the position of Chairman of the Diving Safety Committee for the state of Maryland, Kiser is more than capable of running this course and he does so out of his joy for exploring new places.

Certifying what he says to be over 7,000 divers now, Kiser has taught all over the U.S. including years spent teaching at the Naval Academy, managing at PADI headquarters, running a charter boat out of Ocean City, along with teaching courses at St. Mary's College, Washington College, McDaniel College, Salisbury University and more.

"I just liked it so much, and I spent a lot of time in the Caribbean when I was on active duty in the navy, and as soon as I got out I became an instructor and started teaching," Kiser said.

Kiser also teaches several upper level courses in diving as well including an Advanced Open Water course, which can lead to advancements like rescue diving and diving instructing.

Because Kiser enjoys diving so much, he tries to make the course as enjoyable as possible while making sure students are safe and comfortable with the process.

"If somebody has trouble with the class, I generally work with them until I get them to a point where they can pass," Kiser said.

Senior Camille Supple is taking this course because in her travels she's always had the urge to scuba dive, but she couldn't



Students in ODEL 210 tread water in their first class session.
/ Emma Reider image

scuba diving with warmer and clearer waters than in the Salisbury area, and students are required to do four dives in two days in order to complete the course and become certified scuba divers.

Kiser explained that there are often students who come into the class fearful, but once they learn the skills and gain the confidence, they are able to overcome those fears and dive into open waters.

Kiser also said one of the best parts of diving was the proximity and interaction with marine life and he explained that "nothing's afraid of you." Diving gives the opportunity to have face to face encounters with things beyond shipwrecks and coral reefs, including sharks, sea turtles, dolphins and so much more.

"I really enjoy teaching and I just love diving, so this is what I've always wanted to do," Kiser said. "I try to keep it fun and happy for the students, so they are learning plus they realize how serious things are in the need to pay attention to the technique and safety precautions."

Lights, cameras, Frogz: production visits SU

LAURA AMRHEIN / Staff writer



Jillian Swaim image

PRODUCTION — Broadway made its way to Salisbury University Feb. 12 when the university was honored to host the production Frogz!, a mass compilation of abstract mime, dance and acrobatics.

The production was created by the Imago Theatre and the now internationally-acclaimed show has had two runs on Broadway.

Frogz! attracted many people from the Salisbury community, as well as a number of SU students who were greeted by two

people in penguin costumes handing out programs upon entry.

"Me and my friend Sophie saw the flyers [around campus], and we were like this is iconic, let's go!" Erin Lee, an SU freshman said.

The show was part of the Cultural Laureate program which is run by the SU Office of Cultural Affairs. The program encourages SU students to go and experience a certain number of cultural events in order to receive a cord at graduation.

SU senior Natalia Graf attended the event partly due to the program, and partly because she was intrigued by the event's nature and her love for animals.

"I like frogs and the title mostly," Graf said. "I am also doing the cultural laureate program and I have been doing it for a couple semesters now and I am trying to get the graduation cord."

The show featured 11 unique scenes. Though the titles to the scenes were simple, such as "Cowboy," "Frogs" and "Sloth Circus," the scenes were anything but plain. One scene, titled "Paper Bag," involved a large bag that an actor was in. The bag tipped back and forth, entertaining the audience with its ability to not tip over.

"I really liked the paper bag. I liked how it literally looked like a paper bag, you could not tell that there was somebody inside it. [I also liked] how it just folded at one point, I thought that was really impressive," SU junior Jaclyn Laman said.

"The show was really interesting," Laman said. "It's really hard to describe the show. I guess I like that element of it. It is really disjointed but it all goes together at the same time. I thought that was really impressive."

Frogz! offered a rare experience to both the Salisbury community and students alike. The combination of acrobatics and humor was a unique form of entertainment on an otherwise mediocre Tuesday evening.

Dead of Night Paranormal Investigation: An SU student's perspective on ghost hunting

JARED SHEMONSKY
/ Staff writer

REGIONAL — "Spine-chilling," "horrifying," "bloody." These one-liners typically litter a horror movie's review page. While fact and fiction are often differentiated greatly, ghost hunter and Salisbury University junior Robin Beauchamp claims that Hollywood's depiction of paranormal investigation couldn't be further from the truth.

Stating simply "They aren't accurate," Beauchamp — along with her fellow ghost hunters Joe, Kimberly and Olen — have been searching for the supernatural together for about two years now under the title "Dead of Night Paranormal Investigation."

The group combs up the Eastern Shore into Pennsylvania looking for what they hope to be more than natural. Perhaps a better word would be detecting; the group always sends out with four cameras, an electronic voice phenomena device, which detects sound through both AM and FM frequencies, a recorder and a K2, which Beauchamp swears by.

The K2 is simple to use and it detects energy in surrounding areas by way of a color-coded rating system. Green indicates that there is no reading, and red signifies signs of energy uptake. When the electrical power to the house is killed, the K2 device is Beauchamp's choice because of the simplicity for those, she joked, "that aren't color blind."

The group commonly finds themselves in similar locations so they can familiarize themselves with certain "hubs" of paranormal activity. They visit Bube's Brewery in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, along with Bhouette's Antique Mall in Havre De Grace, Maryland and the Ocean City Life Saving Museum quite frequently to increase their chances to prove their claims.

which basically means possession, and she was holding my hand, and I could feel her hand rub up and down my arm."

Beauchamp found this instance "odd" because she was "calm and collected."

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The mechanics of the situation seem to resemble that of the scientific method: the group begins by researching the area to find sufficient reason to inquire, then they go find the evidence themselves and conclude as to whether it's worth it to revisit.

"Joe and Olen were on the other side of the house as I was scanning the rooms with my K2 detector," Beauchamp said. "I then turned down the hallway and walked down the stair and felt a tug. I turned around and no one was there."

Beauchamp says she wasn't scared, but simply aroused. Another experience followed a similar path, yet she claims it could have had a more sinister outcome.

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Kirkey works for "Chesapeake Ghost Tours," which was founded by Mindie Boughayne, a novelist who has written six novels on both the histories and hauntings of the Eastern Shore. The tour company is highly commercialized, as it gives tours in 11 locations around Delmarva, selling merchandise, keychains and other knick-knacks you might find in a gift shop.

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"It's really just spooky," Kirkey said. "Nothing out of the ordinary happened, but I would never go in there by myself."

Kirkey mentioned that even children are welcomed, although she warned that it can often be too much for a young child, but anyone who's intrigued by the paranormal is welcome.

Ghost hunting is a careful subject for some, and more of a pastime for others, but it's safe to say that the amount of revenue brought in by ghost tourism and ghost investigations is on the rise. ▶

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SU softball pushes for second straight NCAA tournament in 2019

HOLLY FERRIS and CHASE GORSKI / Sports editor and Editor-in-Chief

SOFTBALL — As warmer temperatures begin to show up more often in Salisbury, so does the familiar crack of the bat heard on South Division Street.

The return of spring cues the return of Salisbury University softball as the Gulls aim to build off of a successful 2018 campaign that finished with an NCAA appearance and an overall 30-15 record. An 11-3 conference record also led SU to the Capital Athletic Conference Championship Series against Christopher Newport.

But with each year of collegiate athletics comes the departure of a senior class and a whole that is needed to be filled. That case is no different in Salisbury as the team will move forward without four crucial parts of last year's success.

In the circle, the Sea Gulls lose one of their top two pitchers in Rachael Milligan. Totaling over 200 innings pitched in her two-year career at SU, Milligan threw over half of those innings last season with a 3.77 ERA.

The Sea Gulls also lost a lot of firepower from last year.

Four-year standout LeAnne Collins leaves a major hole in center field and at the lead-off spot after hitting .434 in her career. Her 46 runs last season were third on the team with a .430 average that saw her tied for the team lead.

Following Collins are two players that ended their senior years with career-best seasons. Annie Pianza and Kristen Yamarella were top hitters in 2018 for the Sea Gulls.

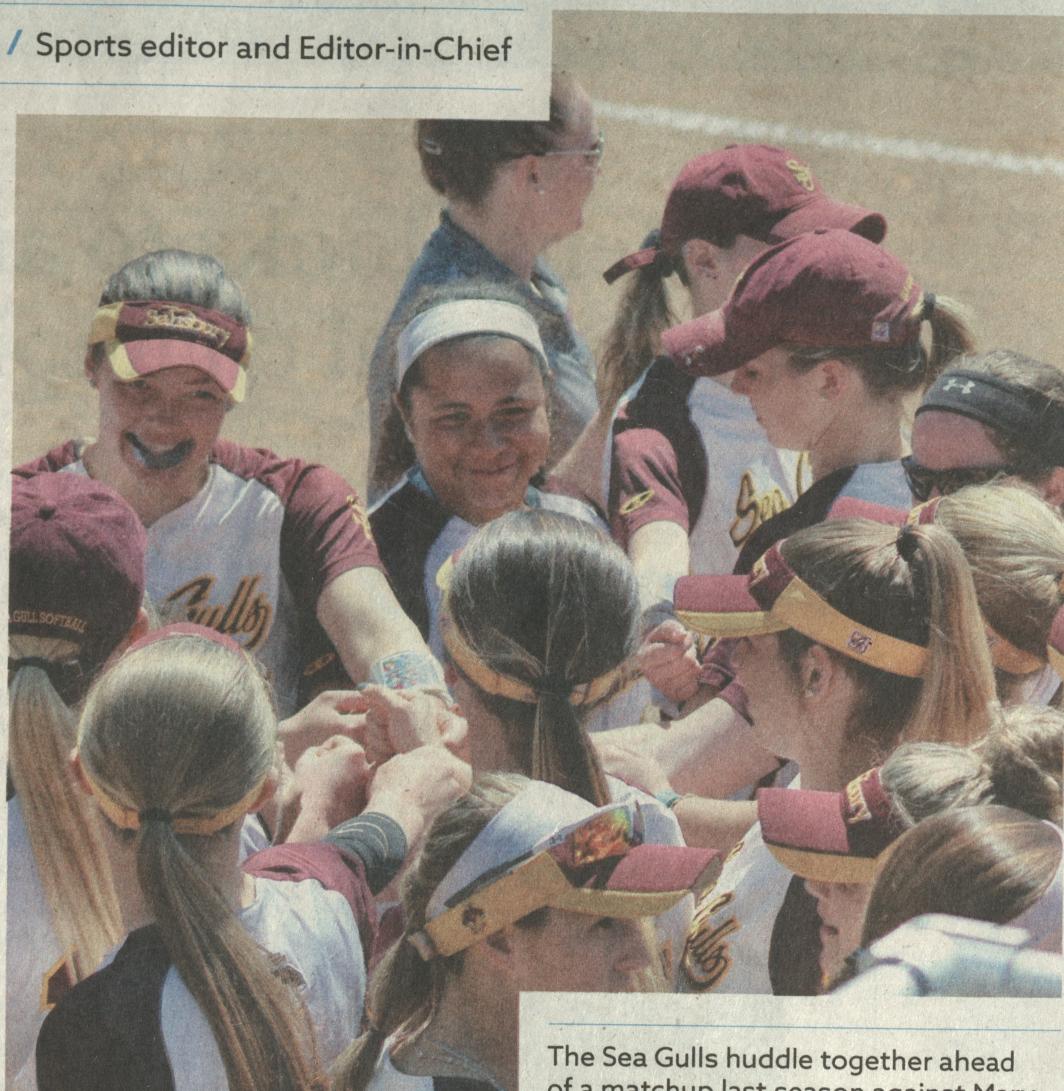
Pianza, a power spot in the lineup, continued her upward trend into a .430 average last year leading the team with eight homers, 21 doubles, 47 runs scored and 43 RBIs. Each of those totals represented career-highs except for RBIs.

Yamarella joined in with career-highs of her own in most major categories tallying 19 runs scored and 30 RBIs on top of her .338 average.

Having to go through this each year has given Head Coach Margie Knight an appreciation for the contributions that have come in the past from alumni.

"Those that march through here, and leave their imprint, we thank them for their time, but we don't look back," Knight said. "We don't look at the loss, we look at the gain they've given us, but we have a new group of people and that's who we focus on."

This has been the mind set for years. SU softball has a rich history and is one of the winningest programs in the country. The Sea Gulls have been to the NCAA National Championship nine



The Sea Gulls huddle together ahead of a matchup last season against Mary Washington. / Emma Reider image

times and have been to the championship game three times during Knight's tenure.

However in 2017 the team had the worst record in their entire history, barely breaking the .500 mark with a 21-19 record. Last season the team returned to regionals on an at-large bid before falling to Moravian College.

Despite those struggles, Knight believes if someone focuses only on the past couple seasons, then they miss the point of what has been engrained into the Sea Gull softball program throughout the years.

"It's not about what happened last year, it's about who's doing the job right now," Knight said. "The reason we have that wonderful tradition is because we focus on the people that are here today, and what they can add to it."

Knight thinks the team has the capability to get back the championship again.

"We're working really hard and we've got some big sticks in the lineup to score a lot of runs," Knight said. "The pitchers have also been doing really well during scrimmages."

The team has been busy doing weight training and fall ball practices and improving their fielding, pitching and hitting in the off season.

"I just need to stay relaxed. The less you think, the better you do," Fraley said. "And sticking to my roots. I'm someone who likes to see a strike before I swing or

find a pitch that I like and when I do that, I find I am most successful."

Though outside of that success at the plate, Fraley is focused on making necessary improvement to her play in the field. Fraley had the most errors on the team last season at 11, though Salisbury as a whole was tied in the CAC for least amount of errors as a team with 35.

"Our team is new in a sense because we have so many freshmen on the team," Fraley said. "As shortstop, you're the leader of the whole field in some ways so you have to get used to the people who are new and how they work, and find their strengths and weaknesses."

Another big switch in the defense comes as a change in position as senior Amelia Trotter will be making the move from third base to first base.

"The only real similarity is that they are the corner positions which is the same distance from the batter but other than that they are totally different," Trotter said. "I've played third base basically my whole career in high school, travel ball and college."

Despite a lack of experience, totaling only one season in her softball career playing first base, Trotter is excited for the challenge of involvement in every play along with a little physical relief.

"But I'm really happy about [the move] though especially because my arm isn't what it used to be so that's helpful," Trotter said. "I get the action almost every play, so I think it'll be a good move."

This season also brings about strong emotions for Trotter as she is one of three seniors going into their last year as a softball player.

Despite all the experience and her ability to thrive under pressure, Powell still acknowledges the difficulties that come with real-game moments.

"You have to have a short memory

which means if you throw a bad pitch and the batter scores a home run, you have to keep moving along because you're getting the ball right back," Powell said. "You can't hesitate or dwell on what you did wrong you just have to keep throwing and know that your team has your back."

Junior shortstop Dakotah Fraley will play a pivotal role offensively for SU as the best returning hitter from last season statistically. Fraley lit up the stat sheet at the end of the year hitting .420 with a team-high 47 runs, 7 home runs and 39 RBIs.

Fraley has a couple methods to keeping her success in the batter's box going into the 2019 season.

How do they want to be remembered?

With an opportunity to make it to regionals in back-to-back seasons while also battling for their first CAC championship since 2016, there is a lot on the horizon for each senior class has to answer when starting their final season.

With the loss of Milligan, more pressure will be on senior Shannon Powell to carry the load in the circle. After logging

10 or more goals in eight of its 24 games last season.

It's a unit that has to get better for the Sea Gulls to get back on top of the Division III lacrosse world.

Through its first two games, SU defeated Berry College at home 9-7 and grabbed a ranked matchup win on the road at No. 20 Lynchburg 11-9. Despite recent struggles, Berkman is confident that its offense will be able to get the job done.

With new youth stepping in on defense, Warren will be an anchor to a defense that looks to improve on being the second-best scoring defense in the CAC last season.

Widener University until its first big test of the season comes against No. 6 Gettysburg College. This early schedule will show just where SU is in comparison to last season, and is the prime test for building momentum ahead of its conference schedule.

A Sea Gull team that looks to make it to another national championship will have a tough schedule to prove its worth early on.

He also feels that having a strong veteran presence and depth on the team keeps the underclassmen working hard, knowing that their opportunities are not guaranteed.

With a team that scored over 13 goals per game last season and only graduated one of its top scorers in midfielder Garrett Reynolds, this is a team that has offensive experience returning. However, the first two games of the season have left more to be desired.

"Well, we certainly were looking to put up more goals than we did during the beginning of last season, but that didn't happen in the first game," Berkman said. "Going forward, we're hoping that scoring is not going to be a hassle for us."

The Sea Gulls got off to a bit of a rough start last season, as they were 6-3 in their first nine games. This skid included a devastating nine-goal loss at No. 2 York College.

However, adjustments were made and the team rallied together to embark on a 14-game win streak. In spite of its impressive win streak, scoring goals was still a struggle at times for SU. The team failed

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selves with a preseason national rank of fourth and a lot of shoes to fill.

To have this level of success again this season, a new core of players will have to lead the team. Five key starters from last season graduated: attackers Dana King, Krissy Murphy and Alissa Talbert, midfielder Allie Hynson and longtime goalkeeper Gianna Falcone.

King, Murphy, Hynson and Talbert combined for 116 and 100 of the team's 321 goals and 162 assists, respectively. The offense ran through these players and the chemistry of the team flowed best when all four were on the field together.

There has been a position battle of sorts for this goalkeeper position in the offseason, and it appears that junior Skye Graham is the frontrunner to start the season.

"I've known that I would have two years being mentored by Gianna, and then two years that I would have to step up to the plate," Graham said. "So in the offseason, I just tried to get as many shots as I could, as many realistic plays as I could, and our coaches did a really great job of that."

Graham also says that she is extremely grateful to have played with such an experienced player as a teacher.

"It allowed me to make a lot of mistakes and to realize what I want to be doing when I am playing," Graham said. "I've been able to make those mistakes, and now I can come into my junior year with a lot of knowledge."

While there is clear offensive production that needs to be replaced, Skoglund does not put the focus on any individual players to fill those shoes specifically this upcoming season.

"Really, it's more of our teamwork and working together and we can make up for those people that we lost," Skoglund said. "It's really just working as a team and coming together and just being a whole that's really going to help us push forward and be successful as we were last year."

A bigger focus for SU will be in goal,

as for the first time in four years, it will be without Falcone. Logging just shy of 4,000 minutes in goal in her career and boasting a 63-12 record, No. 46 has been a crucial part of the Sea Gulls' defense these past four seasons.

Falcone recorded 453 total saves in her time with Salisbury, earning a career save percentage of 51.7 percent, including a career-high 147 saves last year.

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High School and Jasmin Hall from Caesar Rodney High School.

Skye, being a returning player, has done a great job right now to fill in those shoes, but we have two freshmen that came in that are also doing a great job and really challenging for that spot," Nestor said. "But Skye has experience and she knows what it takes to win in those big-game situations."

One of SU's greatest strengths as a team has been its defense, and the team is returning all seven defenders from last year's roster. The large focus in many practices is on the defensive end as well.

"We're always trying to challenge them. That's the biggest thing at practice," Nestor said. "Put them in high-pressure situations, so that hopefully on game day we can make smart decisions and take care of the ball, not have as many turnovers."

The fundamentals will remain key for the Gulls as they look to continue being a team that limits mistakes. SU had the least turnovers per game (12.13) out of any team in DIII last season.

This high level of discipline is found across the defense of this team led by multiple veterans, including senior Morgan Von Schmidt.

"We prepare by running the other team's plays; our coaches do a lot of scouting on the other team, so we pretty much know who their top attackers are and what they like to do," Von Schmidt said. "Our attack does a lot of mimicking the other attack, so they really help us prepare quite

a bit."

Despite the losses to the offense last season, the Sea Gulls have plenty to look forward to with a new influx of youth complimenting a core of upperclassmen including seven seniors.

Nestor has been optimistic about this season's roster and their potential for success once again.

"We lost a lot of great players from last year, so we know we have some big holes to fill, but from what we've seen so far, I feel that the players have done a great job," Nestor said.

Nestor knows just how important it is to excel in all phases of the game in order to compete with the teams at the end of the tournament. He highlights being able to create scoring opportunities from unsettled situations, taking care of the ball in transition, dominating draw control and having a stellar defense to take pressure off the goalkeepers.

"I think it all comes down to handling that pressure in those big-game situations," Nestor said.

SU will start off its quest to return to the national semifinals with its season debut hosting Stevenson, a program that finished with an 8-10 record last season on Feb. 16. With a defense that has been there already, eyes will be on the offense and in goal as the Gulls try to make that leap back to the top of DIII women's lacrosse.

4-year core ready for final season on the diamond

CHASE GORSKI / Editor-in-Chief
@cgorski12



BASEBALL — Last year the Sea Gulls said goodbye to 12 different seniors at the end of the season. But only one of those seniors, Scott Ardoian, had been with the team for all four years.

Fast forward to today and what was once looked at as a power recruiting class for Salisbury University's baseball team is face-to-face with their final season.

Eight total seniors who have spent their entire careers in the maroon and gold. Eight players who have joined the long list of Sea Gulls that have advanced to the NCAA Tournament each year of their collegiate career.

This class that has been together since their first days at SU, who have been crowned champions of the Capital Athletic Conference at the end of every season throughout their career thus far.

The one thing this group of seniors has been without; a trip to the World Series.

The last time that head coach Troy Brohawn advanced beyond regionals was in 2015, a year that saw the Sea Gulls post a 33-6-1 while also finding themselves at No. 1 in the nation for three consecutive weeks.

It's the final piece that has been missing in their four-year careers here at SU.

"I'm looking to win, I want to win a World Series that's my main goal that's my only goal," senior first baseman Jay Perry said. "Whatever we can do for the team to get a World Series that's what I want to do."

Perry is one of the key offensive returners for this Sea Gull squad, a .283

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With such a strong group leading the charge, Brohawn sees the importance of the older veterans rubbing off on some of the younger players on the team. With a large group of seniors set to walk out the door, there needs to be a way to prepare new players to pick up the torch next season.

The offense has been a focal point for SU, but through the past couple years have seen slumps in untimely situations.

Back-to-back exits in the NCAA Regionals have Brohawn focusing more and more on consistency. With references to standout pitching performances, namely starter Austin Heenan from last season in their 1-0 loss to the University of Southern Maine, Brohawn wants to see the offense close out those close games.

"When we're hot, look out, we're going to put 10 to 15 on ya, but when we're cold, buddy it's frigid," Brohawn said. "I think we have depth enough that if somebody doesn't do it, their tail is going to be over here with me and somebody else will get out there and do it."

The roster is scattered with strong junior talent including centerfielder Justin Meekins and Padway behind the plate as well, but now is complimented by a new group of youth.

"I think some of the veterans take note of that...each year you have to earn your spot and they know right now that there's somebody on my heels," Brohawn said. "It creates competition at practice which I think is good for a team."

With so many returners in the field, the eyes for a second straight year return to the mound. Just a year after having questions about a pitching staff after losing starters Pete Grasso, Jeff Oster and Micah Wells, those questions are back again.

What was arguably an equally talented if not improved three-man rotation is now gone as Heenan, Connor Reeves and Wes Whitlock leave another hole at the front

end of the bullpen. Only two full-time pitchers return from last season, both of them combined for five innings pitched.

The lone senior in the bullpen AJ Korczynski and sophomore Andrew Rossi join a bullpen loaded with new faces ready to contribute.

"It's added a lot of energy to the team, these guys have come in and not only shown they have talent to pitch here but they've come in with the mentality of 'I belong here,'" Brohawn said. "Not being arrogant, not being cocky but they got that mental toughness that's, to be honest, hard to recruit."

Junior transfer Clayton Dwyer is one of the main pitchers that has taken the spotlight as a starter for the rotation. Joining Dwyer are fellow juniors Jason McDonough and Zach Amisano come in as potential starting candidates.

Six new freshmen come in ready to eat up innings, but when referencing new players he's excited about, Brohawn could hardly limit the list.

"I'm excited that we have a more rounded staff that you don't have to depend on three guys to get you to where you want to go," Brohawn said. "I wouldn't hesitate to put either one of those guys in the game, and we haven't had that from top to bottom since I've been here."

Through three games there have already been multiple freshmen that have seen their collegiate debuts come to fruition including Daniel Frake, Corey Burton, Matt Grogan and Xavier Marmol. Brohawn has taken the stance of getting players experience early after losing over 60 percent of his innings thrown last year following the departure of seniors.

The pressure will be on handfuls of players looking to make a name for themselves in the maroon and gold, with veterans in front of them that have their goals at the very top.

"We've never won a regional, no one here has won one, no one's been to the World Series," Decker said.

Boasting a 3-0 record and finding themselves at No. 22 in the nation in the

current polls, SU rolls into the loaded part of their early schedule with multiple ranked matchups on the horizon.

A tactic that Brohawn has utilized as a way to test his team early and have the ability to learn about his lineup in high-pressure games.

"There's a lot of teams that like to sugarcoat their early season and jump out to nine, 10, 11-0. Does it look good? Yeah it looks great but what does it tell you about your team?" Brohawn said. "It gives you a feel for where you are with your team... it prepares you for a tough conference schedule."

The familiar Cortland State and Oswego matchups will bring a ranked faceoff in Salisbury before the Sea Gulls move closer into conference play in mid-March.

The Sea Gulls will have another new test this season as well as the CAC has implemented new schedules including a three-game series during conference play. A schedule setup that SU has been primed for the past two seasons with two of the better three-man rotations for back-to-back years.

However, this year some of those games look to be a bullpen battle, but with the confidence Brohawn has in his staff

it seems that the Gulls will find a way to compete.

But coach isn't the only one who has noticed the standout performances on the mound throughout the fall and preseason.

While the team knows only four returners had seen time on the mound for SU, Barry sees no reason for the offense to have to overcompensate.

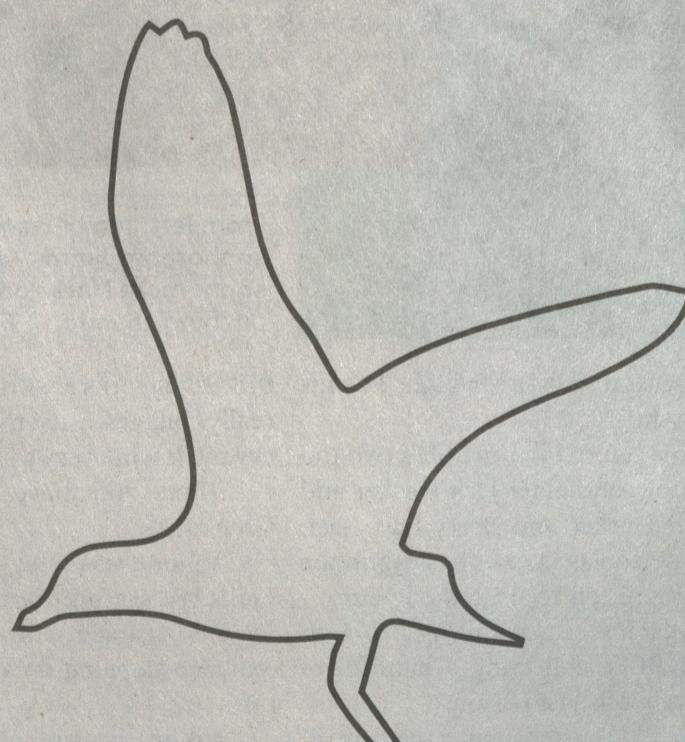
"They've sort of taken that pressure off of [the offense] just in the preseason... they've thrown extremely well," Barry said. "Coach Brohawn preaches that to us, we're going to pitch and play defense and the offense is going to come around."

Looking for the rare "four-peat" and to make a run throughout the NCAA Tournament will be a bigger test this year than in years past, with multiple CAC opponents bringing back stacked rosters highlighted by No. 13 Christopher Newport.

But as Barry said, with an offense that will come around eventually, it's only a matter of time before the Sea Gull team gets hot. The only question is when. ●

The dugout comes out to celebrate a solo-homerun from junior Brandon Bonesteel against Gwynedd Mercy.

Emma Redier image



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